

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	File No. EB-02-IH-0568
)	
)	Acct. No. 20033208000
)	
Verizon Telephone Companies)	FRN No. 0003708500
)	

ORDER

Adopted: February 28, 2003

Released: March 4, 2003

By the Commission:

1. The Commission has been conducting an investigation into possible violations by the Verizon Telephone Companies ("Verizon") of sections 271(a) and (b) and 272(g)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, in connection with the marketing and provisioning of in-region interLATA services in states where Verizon has not received authorization to provide such services pursuant to section 271 of the Act.¹

2. The Commission and Verizon have negotiated the terms of a Consent Decree that would terminate the Commission's investigation. A copy of the Consent Decree is attached hereto and is incorporated by reference.

3. We have reviewed the terms of the Consent Decree and evaluated the facts before us. We believe that the public interest would be served by approving the Consent Decree and terminating the investigation.

4. Based on the record before us, and in the absence of material new evidence relating to this matter, we conclude that there are no substantial and material questions of fact as to whether Verizon possesses the basic qualifications, including its character qualifications, to hold or obtain any FCC licenses or authorizations.

5. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to sections 4(i) and 4(j) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i) and 154(j) that the Consent Decree, incorporated by reference in and attached to this order, is hereby ADOPTED.

¹ See Letter from Maureen F. Del Duca, Deputy Chief, Investigations and Hearings Division, Enforcement Bureau, to Gordon R. Evans, Vice President, Federal Regulatory, Verizon, and Dee May, Assistant Vice President, Federal Regulatory, Verizon, dated July 9, 2002 ("LOI").

6. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Secretary SHALL SIGN the Consent Decree on behalf of the Commission.

7. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above captioned investigation IS TERMINATED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary